

Scott-Brown's Otorhinolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery, 7th edn

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EXTENT P/H	3,900 pages, Hardback, 3 volumes
PRICE/ISBN	£450.00 9780340808931
PUBLISHER	Hodder Arnold (London), 2008
REVIEWER	Callum Faris
STAR RATING	★★★★★

This new edition has been fully updated and almost entirely rewritten by an international team of editors and contributors. Much of the credit must go to the editorial team for maintaining its format and excellent content throughout. The aim is 'to be used as the definitive reference for trainee and specialist ENT surgeons, audiologists and trainee head and neck surgeons.'

It easily achieves this aim. The previous six-volume text has been condensed into three. The number of chapters has been increased, with a total of 20 sections and 260 chapters, highly illustrated in colour throughout. Each section has standard format with key points and best-practice summaries, which aid the reader to focus on the main teaching points. The text is accompanied by a fully searchable electronic edition, containing the same content as the print edition, with references linked to MEDLINE®. This gives the reader requiring more information an excellent starting point. It costs slightly more than alternative texts of similar breadth and depth but it does represent value for money given its broad coverage.

The first volume covers basic science and paediatrics. The chapters on management of congenital deformities of the external and middle ear, laryngeal stenosis, and paediatric tracheostomy and craniofacial anomalies are excellent. The second volume covers rhinology and head and neck oncology. The chapters on anatomy of the nose, paranasal sinuses, surgical management of rhinosinusitis, abnormalities of smell, frontal sinus and diagnosis of facial pain are highly recommended reading for all ENT practitioners. In the head and neck section the chapters on objective evaluation of the voice, parapharyngeal space, hypopharynx, metastatic neck disease, and quality of life for head and neck cancer and palliative care are excellent.

Of specific note in the third volume are two chapters focusing on prosthetics and reconstruction. David Gault's chapter on ear reconstruction is superb. The chapters on anatomy of the skull base and infratemporal fossa, physiology of hearing and balance, and clinical neuroanatomy are also excellent.

The Scaphoid

DAVID J SLUTSKY, JOSEPH F SLADE III

EXTENT P/H	384 pages, Hardback
PRICE/ISBN	£199.95 9781604062373
PUBLISHER	Thieme (Stuttgart), 2011
REVIEWER	David Warwick
STAR RATING	★★★★★

This is a magnificent book. The editors have recruited an illustrious list of contributors from around the world to produce a comprehensive account of the scaphoid. There are 42 chapters, divided into four sections: anatomy and imaging, scaphoid fractures and non-unions, non-union with avascular necrosis and salvage procedures. Every imaginable topic has been covered, including pathology, surgical techniques, biomechanics and implant technology. There are even chapters on special groups: children and athletes. The book is beautifully presented with countless illustrations, clinical photographs and radiographs.

The book contains full working descriptions of all the traditional surgical techniques such as volar wedge grafting and dorsal pedicled vascularised grafts. Other options are covered that some might even consider to be fanciful: metacarpal thumb grafts, pyrocarbon implants, medial femoral condyle grafts, arthroscopically guided fixation, osteochondral rib grafts and percutaneous grafts. However, these are presented with enough authority and detail that having read the rationale, surgical technique and results, the reader will appreciate whether and for which patient they might have a role.

The quality of illustrations is superb. The description of surgical techniques is so clear and thorough, supported by diagrams and DVD footage, that the reader will be able to appreciate the 3D concepts required for successful execution of any of the procedures described. Readers will be confident, having studied this book, that they will not overlook a key fact that might help them understand, or a specific approach that might help them treat, their patient's scaphoid problem.

The senior author, Professor Joe Slade, died just before this book was published. The book will stand as a fitting tribute to his commitment to excellence in education and his contribution to knowledge of the scaphoid in particular.